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REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DRAFTING GROUP TO THE PLENARY

Addendum

91/__. Senior management structure

The Governing Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 on the capacity of the United Nations development system,

Recalling its decision 90/45 of 22 June 1990 on revised budget estimates for 1990-1991,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/264 of 13 May 1991 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Taking note of the report entitled A Strategy-Based Senior Management Structure for the United Nations Development Programme (DP/1991/50),

Also taking note of the report of the Administrator (DP/1991/51) on the management consultants' report and the views expressed by delegations during the current session of the Governing Council,

Further taking note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (DP/1991/62),

Having in mind that the United Nations Development Programme is a field-oriented technical assistance funding agency,

1. Recognizes that the management consultants' report and the Administrator's comments are proposals for consideration in a continuing reform process in the United Nations Development Programme to ensure that its management, structure and programme evolve efficiently and effectively in response to the needs for technical cooperation in developing countries;

2. Recognizes the need for strengthening the policy and strategy formulation capacity of the United Nations Development Programme, under the guidance of the Governing Council, and the advantages of managerial decentralization;

3. Notes the intention of the Administrator to reduce the number of units reporting directly to him;

4. Acknowledges the initiatives of the Administrator in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the United Nations Development Programme and urges him to continue to improve the utilization of existing human resources and to make proposals for reducing high-level posts in conformity with General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 as well as proposals for reducing other senior-level (D-1 and D-2) posts;

5. Requests the Administrator to present for consideration by the Governing Council at its thirty-ninth session (1992) a plan of action outlining his recommendations concerning management structure, their impact on the organization, including financial implications, and the timetable, taking fully into account the views expressed by delegations at the current session of the Council on the recommendations of the report, the recommendations and issues raised by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the legislative mandates contained in General Assembly resolution 45/264;

6. Requests the Administrator to exercise his prerogatives with due discretion, keeping in mind the concerns referred to in the present decision;

7. Requests the Administrator to provide in his plan of action further information on the concepts of division manager and strategy group in order to allow the Governing Council to review his proposals prior to his taking action on these matters, particularly on the following:

(a) What responsibilities, authority and accountability will the division manager have; e.g., for the management of financial resources and personnel? For project and programme approval?

(b) How will the functions of the area officers and the relationship of the Regional Director to the Resident Representative change?

(c) What will be the relationship between the division manager and the Resident Representatives in the countries in his/her portfolio? Will he/she review the performance of Resident Representatives?

8. Requests the Administrator to provide information on the Office for Project Services, including all its activities in relation to the role of the United Nations Development Programme in the United Nations development system, taking into account the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the new support cost arrangements, renewed emphasis on national capacity-building and national execution, and the findings of the Board of External Auditors, and the United Nations Development Programme's internal management analysis;

9. Requests the Administrator to provide in his plan of action further information on the legal status and the function of the Governing Council secretariat, also being the secretariat for the United Nations Population Fund and the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat;

10. Notes the responsibility of the Administrator for the effective management of United Nations Development Programme resources and requests that in his plan of action he present to the Governing Council for its consideration the accountability and quality control mechanisms which will accompany any change in the delegation of authority as well as an integrated description of the internal quality control mechanisms of the United Nations Development Programme and project review and approval processes in the field and at headquarters.